

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1, 2, 5, 9, 12, 13, 15, 17, 20, 22, 23, 25, 27-29, 31-43, 45-47, 49-51, 53, 55, 56, 58-60, 62-64, 66-68, 70, and 71, as indicated below. The following is a complete listing of claims and replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of editing a video sequence comprising at least one clip, each clip being formed at least by video content captured between two points in time and thereby defining a duration of the clip, [[said]] the method comprising the steps of:

extracting duration data associated with the duration of each clip of the video sequence;

processing the duration data of the at least one clip according to at least one predetermined template of editing rules to form editing instruction data, the template indicating at least a plurality of predetermined edited segment durations, the editing instruction data being configured to form output edited segments from the at least one clip, ~~each output edited segment being based on one of the plurality of predetermined edited segment durations;~~ and

processing the at least one clip of the video sequence according to the editing instruction data to form an output edited sequence of the output edited segments, each output edited segment being of one of the plurality of predetermined edited segment durations with at least a portion of the at least one clip being discarded by the processing of the at least one clip.

Claim 2 (currently amended): A method according to claim 1 wherein the editing rules establish a cutting format that provides for [[the]] formation of the output edited segments, each being of one of at least a first duration and a second duration and for the discarding of at least a portion of each clip.

Claim 3 (previously presented): A method according to claim 2 wherein the first duration is between 1 and 8 seconds and the second duration is between 2 and 20 seconds.

Claim 4 (previously presented): A method according to claim 3 wherein the first duration is about 4 seconds and the second duration is about 10 seconds.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A method according to claim 2 wherein the output edited sequence is formed from a time sequential combination of the output edited segments based upon a predetermined cutting pattern formed using segments of the first duration and the second duration.

Claim 6 (previously presented): A method according to claim 5 wherein the predetermined cutting pattern comprises alternate first duration segments and second duration segments.

Claim 7 (previously presented): A method according to claim 2 wherein an initial interval of a predetermined (third) duration is discarded from each clip prior to formation of the output edited segments from a remainder of the clip.

Claim 8 (previously presented): A method according to claim 7 wherein the third duration is between 0.5 and 2 seconds.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A method according to claim 2 wherein an internal interval of a predetermined (fourth) duration is discarded from at least one ~~of the clips~~ clip from which at least two of the output edited segments are to be formed, the internal interval separating portions of ~~[[the]]~~ a clip from which the at least two output edited segments are formed.

Claim 10 (previously presented): A method according to claim 9 wherein the fourth duration is between 1 and 5 seconds.

Claim 11 (canceled).

Claim 12 (currently amended): A method according to claim 2 wherein ~~[[the]]~~ formation of the output edited segments comprises cutting a portion from at least one ~~of the clips~~ clip and modifying a reproduction duration of the portion to correspond with one of the first duration ~~[[or]]~~ and the second duration.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A method according to claim 12 wherein the cutting and the modifying are performed when the portion has a reproduction duration within a predetermined range of one of the first and second durations.

Claim 14 (previously presented): A method according to claim 13 wherein the predetermined range is from 70% to 200% of the one of the first and second durations.

Claim 15 (currently amended) A method according to claim 12 wherein the modifying comprises multiplying the reproduction [[time]] duration of the portion by a predetermined factor and cutting the modified portion to one of the first [[or]] and second durations.

Claim 16 (previously presented): A method according to claim 2 wherein the editing rules comprise an edited duration during which the output edited segments are to be reproduced and from which a number of the output edited segments is determined based upon the first and second durations.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A method according to claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of predetermined edited segment durations [[are]] is determined using a beat period of a sound track to be associated with the output edited sequence.

Claim 18 (previously presented): A method according to claim 1 wherein the duration data comprises data accompanying the video sequence.

Claim 19 (previously presented): A method according to claim 1 wherein the editing rules include incorporating at least one title matte as part of the output edited sequence.

Claim 20 (currently amended): A method according to claim 19 wherein the title matte is formed and incorporated according to a sub-method comprising the steps of:

examining time data associated with the duration data for each clip to identify those of the clips that are associable by a predetermined time function, the associable clips being arranged into corresponding groups of clips;

identifying at least one of a beginning and a conclusion of each group as a title location;

for at least one title location, examining at least one of corresponding time data and further characteristic data to generate ~~[[the]]~~ an insert title including at least a text component; and

incorporating the insert title into the video sequence at ~~[[the]]~~ a corresponding title location.

Claim 21 (cancelled).

Claim 22 (currently amended): A computer readable medium[[,]] having a program recorded thereon, [[where]] wherein the program is configured to make a computer execute a ~~procedure to edit~~ method of editing a video sequence comprising at least one clip, each clip being formed at least by video content captured between two points in time and thereby defining a duration of the clip, ~~said program being configured to implement the method comprising~~ the steps of:

extracting duration data associated with the duration of each clip of the video sequence;

processing the duration data of the at least one clip according to at least one predetermined template of editing rules to form editing instruction data, the template indicating at least a plurality of predetermined edited segment durations, the editing instruction data being configured to form output edited segments from the at least one clip, ~~each output edited segment being based on one of the plurality of predetermined output edited segment durations; and~~

processing the at least one clip of the video sequence according to the editing instruction data to form an output edited sequence of the output edited segments, each output edited segment being of one of the plurality of predetermined edited segment durations with at least a portion of the at least one clip being discarded by the processing of the at least one clip.

Claim 23 (currently amended): A computer readable medium according to claim 22 wherein the editing rules include a cutting format that provides for [[the]] formation of the output edited segments, each being of one of ~~at least~~ a first duration and a second duration and ~~for discarding of at least a portion of each clip,~~ and wherein an initial interval of a predetermined

(third) duration is discarded from each clip prior to formation of the output edited segments from a remainder of the clip.

Claim 24 (previously presented): A computer readable medium according to claim 23 wherein the first duration is between 1 and 8 seconds, the second duration is between 2 and 20 seconds, and the third duration is between 0.5 and 2 seconds.

Claim 25 (currently amended): A computer readable medium according to claim 23 wherein an internal interval of a predetermined (fourth) duration is discarded from at least one of the clips clip from which at least two of the output edited segments are to be formed, the internal interval separating portions of ~~[[the]]~~ a clip from which the at least two output edited segments are formed, the fourth duration being between 1 and 5 seconds.

Claim 26 (canceled).

Claim 27 (currently amended): A computer readable medium according to claim 23 wherein ~~[[the]]~~ formation of the output edited segments comprises cutting a portion from at least one clip and modifying a reproduction duration of the portion to correspond with one of the first duration ~~[[or]]~~ and the second duration.

Claim 28 (currently amended): A computer readable medium according to claim 27 wherein the cutting and the modifying are performed when the portion has a reproduction

duration within a predetermined range of one of the first and second durations, the predetermined range being from 70% to 200% of the one of the first and second durations.

Claim 29 (currently amended): A computer readable medium according to claim 27 wherein the modifying comprises expanding the reproduction ~~[[time]]~~ duration of the portion by a predetermined factor and cutting the modified portion to one of the first ~~[[or]]~~ and second durations.

Claim 30 (previously presented): A computer readable medium according to claim 23 wherein the editing rules comprise an edited duration during which the output edited segments are to be reproduced and from which a number of the output edited segments is determined based upon the first and second durations.

Claim 31 (currently amended): A computer readable medium according to claim 23 wherein the output edited sequence is formed from a time sequential combination of the output edited segments based upon a predetermined cutting pattern formed using segments of the first duration and the second duration, the predetermined cutting pattern comprising one of (a) alternate first duration segments and second duration segments ~~[[or]]~~ and (b) a pseudo-random selection of first duration segments and second duration segments.

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Claim 32 (currently amended): A computer readable medium according to claim 22, wherein each of the plurality of predetermined edited segment durations ~~[[are]]~~ is determined using a beat period of a sound track to be associated with the output edited sequence.

Claim 33 (currently amended): A computer readable medium according to claim 22 wherein the duration data comprises data selected from the group consisting of:
data accompanying the video sequence; and
data formed by analyzing the video sequence, the analyzing comprises comprising at least one of time analysis, image analysis, sound analysis, and motion analysis.

Claim 34 (currently amended): A computer readable medium according to claim 22 wherein the editing rules includes incorporating at least one title matte as part of the output edited sequence, the title matte being formed and incorporated according to a sub-method comprising the steps of:

examining time data associated with the duration data for each clip to identify ~~those of the~~ clips that are associable by a predetermined time function, the associable clips being arranged into corresponding groups of clips;

identifying at least one of a beginning and a conclusion of each group as a title location;

for at least one title location, examining at least one of corresponding time data and further the characteristic data to generate ~~[[the]]~~ an insert title including at least a text component; and

incorporating the insert title into the video sequence at [[the]] a corresponding
title location.

Claim 35 (currently amended): A visual image editing system comprising:

supply means for providing a video sequence comprising at least one clip, each
clip being formed at least by video content captured between two points in time and thereby
defining a duration of the clip;

extracting means for extracting duration data associated with the duration of each
clip of the video sequence;

processing means for processing the duration data of the at least one clip
according to at least one predetermined template of editing rules to form editing instruction data,
the template indicating at least a plurality of predetermined edited segment durations, the editing
instruction data being configured to form output edited segments from the at least one clip each
~~based on one of a plurality of predetermined output edited segment durations,~~ the editing rules
establishing a cutting format that provides for [[the]] formation of the output edited segments,
each being of one of at least a first duration and a second duration ~~and for discarding of at least a~~
~~portion of each clip, and wherein, and~~ an initial interval of a predetermined (third) duration [[is]]
being discarded from each clip prior to formation of the output edited segments from a remainder
of the clip;

editing means for editing the at least one clip of the video sequence according to
the editing instruction data to form an output edited sequence of the output edited segments, each

output edited segment being of one of the plurality of predetermined edited segment durations
with at least a portion of the at least one clip being discarded by the editing means; and
output means for receiving outputting the output edited sequence.

Claim 36 (currently amended): A system according to claim 35 wherein [[said]]
the supply means comprises a storage arrangement configured to couple [[said]] the video
sequence to ~~said extraction~~ the extracting means, and [[said]] the output means comprises at least
one of a display device by which the output edited sequence is viewable and a further storage
arrangement for storing the output edited sequence.

Claim 37 (currently amended): A system according to claim 36 wherein the
duration data comprises metadata, [[said]] the extracting means forming a metadata file of the
video sequence based upon each clip, and the metadata file forming an input to [[said]] the
processing means, and wherein at least [[said]] the processing means ~~comprising~~ comprises a
computer device operable to interpret the metadata file according to the editing rules to form the
[[edit]] editing instruction data.

Claim 38 (currently amended): A system according to claim 35 wherein the first
duration is between 1 and 8 seconds, the second duration is between 2 and 20 seconds, and the
third duration is between 0.5 and 2 seconds, and wherein an internal interval of a predetermined
(fourth) duration is discarded from at least one of the clips clip from which at least two of the
output edited segments are to be formed, the internal interval separating portions of [[the]] a clip

from which the at least two output edited segments are formed, the fourth duration being between 1 and 5 seconds.

Claim 39 (currently amended): A system according to claim 35 wherein ~~[[said]]~~ the editing means comprises means for cutting a portion from at least one clip and modifying a reproduction duration of the portion to correspond with one of the first duration ~~[[or]]~~ and the second duration.

Claim 40 (currently amended): A system according to claim 39 wherein ~~[[said]]~~ the cutting and the modifying are performed when the portion has a reproduction duration within a predetermined range of one of the first and second durations, the predetermined range being from 70% to 200% of the one of the first and second durations.

Claim 41 (currently amended): A system according to claim 39 wherein the modifying comprises expanding the reproduction ~~[[time]]~~ duration of the portion by a predetermined factor and cutting the modified portion to one of the first ~~[[or]]~~ and second durations.

Claim 42 (currently amended): A system according to claim 35 wherein ~~[[said]]~~ the processing means comprises a ~~store of~~ storage unit storing the editing rules, ~~one of~~ the editing rules comprising an edited duration during which the output edited segments are to be

reproduced and from which [[said]] the processing means is configured to determine a number of the output edited segments based upon the first and second durations.

Claim 43 (currently amended): A system according to claim 35 wherein [[said]] the editing means forms the output edited sequence from a time sequential combination of the output edited segments based upon a predetermined cutting pattern formed using segments of the first duration and the second duration.

Claim 44 (previously presented): A system according to claim 43 wherein the predetermined cutting pattern comprises one of (a) alternate first duration segments and second duration segments and (b) a pseudo-random selection of first duration segments and second duration segments.

Claim 45 (currently amended): A system according to claim 35 wherein the editing rules comprise incorporating at least one title matte as part of the output edited sequence, [[said]] and wherein the system further comprising comprises means for forming and incorporating the title matte into the output edited sequence, [[said]] the means for forming and incorporating comprising:

associating means for examining time data associated with the duration data for each clip to identify ~~those of the~~ clips that are associable by a predetermined time function, the associable clips being arranged into corresponding groups of clips;

identifying means for identifying at least one of a beginning and a conclusion of each group as a title location;

characteristic data examining means for examining, for at least one title location, at least one of corresponding time data and further characteristic data to generate ~~[[the]]~~ an insert title including at least a text component; and

means for incorporating the insert title into the video sequence at ~~[[the]]~~ a corresponding title location.

Claim 46 (currently amended): A method of editing a video sequence comprising a plurality of individual clips, each clip being formed by video content captured between a corresponding commencement of recording and a corresponding cessation of recording and distinguished by associated data including at least time data related to a real time at which ~~[[each]]~~ the clip was recorded, ~~[[said]]~~ the method comprising the steps of:

(a) examining the time data for each clip to identify those of the clips that are associable by a predetermined time function, the associable clips being arranged into corresponding groups of clips;

(b) for each group of clips, identifying from corresponding time data at least one of a beginning and a conclusion of ~~[[each]]~~ the group as a title location;

(c) for at least one title location, examining at least one of corresponding ~~[[time]]~~ time data and further data to generate an insert title including at least a text component; and

(d) incorporating the insert title into the video sequence at ~~[[the]]~~ a corresponding title location.

Claim 47 (currently amended): A method according to claim 46 wherein the predetermined time function comprises associating any two sequential clips within a group when ~~[[the]]~~ a period between ~~[[the]]~~ a real-time conclusion of one of the sequential clips and the real-time commencement of ~~[[the]]~~ a following clip is less than a predetermined (first) duration.

Claim 48 (previously presented): A method according to claim 46 wherein the further data comprises user provided data.

Claim 49 (currently amended): A method according to claim 46 wherein the further data comprises generated data formed by analyzing ~~[[the]]~~ a corresponding clip, and step (c) comprises examining at least one of the time data and the further data to select from a rule-based group of alternatives at least one title component from a title database, the at least one title components component collectively forming the insert title.

Claim 50 (currently amended): A method according to claim 49 wherein the at least one title components are component is selected from the group consisting of individual words and phrases, the at least one title components component being configured for selection in response to a rule-based examination of at least one of the time data and the further data.

Claim 51 (currently amended): A method according to claim 50 wherein the title database comprises a plurality of typeset configurations applicable to the at least one title ~~components~~ component to modify a visual impact of the insert title.

Claim 52 (previously presented): A method according to claim 49 wherein the title database comprises a graphical database of graphical objects configured for inclusion in the insert title.

Claim 53 (currently amended): A method according to claim 46 wherein the insert title comprises a matte background permitting superimposition of the insert title upon ~~[[the]]~~ a clip.

Claim 54 (canceled).

Claim 55 (currently amended): A computer readable medium~~[[,]]~~ having a program recorded thereon, ~~[[where]]~~ wherein the program is configured to make a computer execute a ~~procedure to~~ method of editing a video sequence comprising a plurality of individual clips, each clip being formed by video content captured between a corresponding commencement of recording and a corresponding cessation of recording and distinguished by associated data including at least time data related to a real time at which ~~[[each]]~~ the clip was recorded, ~~said program being configured to implement the method comprising~~ the steps of:

(a) examining the time data for each clip to identify those of the clips that are associable by a predetermined time function, the associable clips being arranged into corresponding groups of clips;

(b) for each group of clips, identifying from corresponding time data at least one of a beginning and a conclusion of ~~[[each]]~~ the group as a title location;

(c) for at least one title location, examining at least one of corresponding time data and further data to generate an insert title including at least a text component; and

(d) incorporating the insert title into the video sequence at ~~[[the]]~~ a corresponding title location.

Claim 56 (currently amended): A computer readable medium according to claim 55 wherein the predetermined time function comprises associating any two sequential clips within a group when ~~[[the]]~~ a period between ~~[[the]]~~ a real-time conclusion ~~[[of]]~~ of one the sequential clips and ~~[[the]]~~ a real-time commencement of ~~[[the]]~~ a following clip is less than a predetermined (first) duration.

Claim 57 (previously presented): A method according to claim 55 wherein the further data comprises user provided data.

Claim 58 (currently amended): A computer readable medium according to claim 55 wherein the further data comprises generated data formed by analyzing ~~[[the]]~~ a corresponding clip, and step (c) comprises examining at least one of the time data and the further

data to select from a rule-based group of alternatives at least one title component from a title database, the at least one title components component collectively forming the insert title.

Claim 59 (currently amended): A computer readable medium according to claim 58 wherein the at least one title components are component is selected from the group consisting of individual words and phrases, the at least one title components component being configured for selection in response to a rule-based examination of at least one of the time data the further data.

Claim 60 (currently amended): A computer readable medium according to claim 59 wherein the title database comprises a plurality of typeset configurations applicable to the at least one title components component to modify a visual impact of the insert title.

Claim 61 (previously presented): A computer readable medium according to claim 58 wherein the title databasc comprises a graphical database of graphical objects configured for inclusion in the insert title.

Claim 62 (currently amended): A computer readable medium according to claim 55 wherein the insert title comprises a matte background permitting superimposition of the insert title upon [[the]] a clip.

Claim 63 (currently amended): A system for editing a video sequence comprising a plurality of individual clips, each clip being formed by video content captured between a corresponding commencement of recording and a corresponding cessation of recording and distinguished by associated data including at least time data related to a real time at which ~~[[each]]~~ the clip was recorded, ~~[[said]]~~ the system comprising:

associating means for examining the time data for each clip to identify ~~those of the~~ clips that are associable by a predetermined time function, and for arranging associable ~~ones of the~~ clips into corresponding groups of clips;

identifying means for, for each group of clips, identifying from corresponding time data at least one of a beginning and a conclusion of ~~[[each]]~~ the group as a title location~~[[,]]~~;

examining means for examining, for at least one title location, at least one of corresponding time data and further data to generate an insert title including at least a text component; and

editing means for incorporating the insert title into the video sequence at ~~[[the]]~~ a corresponding title location.

Claim 64 (currently amended): A system according to claim 63 wherein clips within each group are sequentially associable by the predetermined time function, and the predetermined time function comprises associating any two sequential clips within a group when ~~[[the]]~~ a period between ~~[[the]]~~ a real-time conclusion of one clip and ~~[[the]]~~ a real-time commencement of ~~[[the]]~~ a following clip is less than a predetermined (first) duration.

Claim 65 (previously presented): A system according to claim 63 wherein the further data comprises user provided data.

Claim 66 (currently amended): A system according to claim 63 wherein the further data comprises generated data formed by analyzing ~~[[the]]~~ a corresponding clip, and ~~[[said]]~~ wherein the examining means examines at least one of the time data and the further data to select from a rule-based group of alternatives at least one title component from a title database, the at least one title components component collectively forming the insert title.

Claim 67 (currently amended): A system according to claim 66 wherein the at least one title components ~~are~~ component is selected from the group consisting of individual words and phrases, the at least one title components component being configured for selection in response to a rule-based examination of at least one of the time data and the further data.

Claim 68 (currently amended): A system according to claim 67 wherein the title database comprises a plurality of typeset configurations applicable to the at least one title components component to modify a visual impact of the insert title.

Claim 69 (previously presented): A system according to claim 66 wherein the title database comprises a graphical database of graphical objects configured for inclusion in the insert title.

Claim 70 (currently amended): A system according to claim 63 wherein the insert title comprises a matte background permitting superimposition of the insert title upon [[the]] a clip.

Claim 71 (currently amended): A method according to claim 1, wherein the at least one predetermined template is selected from a plurality of templates each comprising different combinations of editing rules.